

**Introduced by Senator Kuehl**

February 24, 2006

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An act to add Sections 8203.1 and 8203.2 to the Education Code, relating to child care.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SB 1600, as introduced, Kuehl. Child care.

Existing law authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop standards for the implementation of quality child care programs and to contract for the provision of child care and development services.

This bill would require the Child Development Division of the State Department of Education, on or before July 1, 2008, to provide to the Superintendent of Public Instruction a baseline assessment of the supply and demand for subsidized and unsubsidized child care, as specified. The bill would require the Superintendent, on or before March 1, 2009, and every 2 years thereafter, to make recommendations to the Legislature based on that assessment, as specified.

This bill would require the division to convene a task force, consisting of specified members, to develop and submit to the Legislature, on or before January 1, 2008, a Child Care and Development Workforce Development Plan including recommendations on specified issues. The bill would require the department, on or before January 1, 2012, and under the direction of the Superintendent, to implement that plan and submit progress reports to the Legislature, as specified. The bill would require the Superintendent to develop a procedure, based on the recommendations of the task force, for assessing the impact of the plan, and update the plan every five years. This bill also would require the Superintendent

to develop, based on the recommendations of the task force, a registry of child care and development workers, to be the repository of information about staff stability and professional development, and to be used in the determination of qualifications for enhanced reimbursement if so required.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact  
2 legislation that accomplishes all of the following:

3 (a) Reforms the reimbursement system for publicly subsidized  
4 child care.

5 (b) Requires that regular assessments of the supply, demand,  
6 and quality of subsidized and unsubsidized child care be  
7 provided to the Legislature.

8 (c) Requires the development of a plan that details the  
9 expectations of, and career advancement for, the child care  
10 workforce.

11 (d) Provides family child care providers with the right to  
12 participate in collective activities for professional support and  
13 group benefits, to encourage retention and stability among child  
14 care providers and to improve the quality of child care.

15 SEC. 2. Section 8203.1 is added to the Education Code, to  
16 read:

17 8203.1. (a) On or before July 1, 2008, and every two years  
18 thereafter, the Child Development Division of the State  
19 Department of Education shall collect the information identified  
20 in paragraphs (1) to (9), inclusive, aggregate and analyze the  
21 information, and provide to the Superintendent a baseline  
22 assessment of the supply and demand for subsidized and  
23 unsubsidized child care. The assessment shall include, but not be  
24 limited to, all of the following information:

25 (1) The types of child care available from different types of  
26 providers.

27 (2) The cost of available child care, according to the regional  
28 market rate analysis in use at that time.

29 (3) The needs of families participating in CalWORKs, families  
30 who formerly participated in CalWORKs that are still eligible for

1 child care subsidies, and other low-income, working families  
2 eligible for child care subsidies who remain on eligibility lists.

3 (4) The needs of working families not eligible for child care  
4 subsidies.

5 (5) The availability and types of child care for those facing  
6 barriers, including, but not limited to, infants, toddlers, children  
7 with disabilities, and families who require nontraditional hours of  
8 care.

9 (6) The availability and types of child care for families who  
10 may want or need linguistically appropriate child care.

11 (7) Data on the diverse access challenges in rural and urban  
12 communities.

13 (8) The impacts of any universal preschool programs on the  
14 supply of child care beyond preschool programs and on the  
15 demand for, and availability of, full-day, year-round child care.

16 (9) Findings related to the implementation of countywide  
17 centralized eligibility lists pursuant to Section 8227.

18 (b) The assessment pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be based  
19 on extant data and shall utilize information gathered by resource  
20 and referral agencies, local child care planning councils,  
21 alternative payment providers, the University of California, and  
22 other entities. In addition, the State Department of Social  
23 Services is authorized to share information with the division to  
24 develop the assessment.

25 (c) The assessment pursuant to subdivision (a) shall identify  
26 gaps in information currently collected and include  
27 recommendations on the most effective manner of collecting  
28 ongoing information to ensure that the required assessments are  
29 provided efficiently and consistently and shall identify whether  
30 additional resources are required to collect necessary  
31 information.

32 (d) The State Department of Education shall regularly review  
33 its data collection methodologies to ensure that data are collected  
34 in a standardized manner from resource and referral agencies,  
35 local child care planning councils, alternative payment providers,  
36 and other entities.

37 (e) The assessment pursuant to subdivision (a) shall include a  
38 plan for standardizing data collection and collecting data  
39 electronically.

(f) (1) The State Department of Education shall hold public hearings during the preparation of each assessment pursuant to subdivision (a) to inform interested persons of the issues under consideration, and to receive comment and feedback to be incorporated into the recommendations of the Superintendent pursuant to subdivision (h).

(2) The information provided pursuant to this section shall be used to develop the assessments pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (h) and shall be made available to the public.

(g) Any funds that are needed to conduct the assessment, including the operation of the advisory group established pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (h) shall be appropriated from the General Fund for this purpose in the annual Budget Act.

(h) On or before March 1, 2009, and every two years thereafter, the Superintendent shall use the assessment created pursuant to subdivision (a) to prepare and provide to the Legislature recommendations and an assessment concerning the supply and demand for subsidized and unsubsidized child care.

(1) The recommendations shall include multiyear options to incrementally do all of the following:

(A) Address the needs of families receiving child care subsidies, including those families participating in CalWORKs.

(B) Address the needs of low-income, working families eligible for child care subsidies who remain on eligibility lists.

(C) Address the needs of working families not eligible for child care subsidies.

(D) Increase access to high-quality care for families facing child care barriers.

(E) Increase access to linguistically appropriate child care.

(F) Increase access to families in urban and rural areas, including farmworker and agricultural communities.

(2) The recommendations shall be developed in consultation with an advisory group that shall assist the Superintendent in developing the recommendations. The advisory group shall include representatives of all of the following:

(A) The State Department of Social Services.

(B) Parents of children receiving subsidized and unsubsidized child care.

(C) Various types of child care providers, including representatives of public and private subsidized and unsubsidized

1 child care, part-day and full-day preschool programs, Head Start,  
2 the state preschool program, and center- and family-based child  
3 care.

4 (D) Experts in early child care and education, including, but  
5 not limited to, administrators, teachers, and academics with  
6 expertise in early childhood development and research.

7 (E) Child care support entities, including resource and referral  
8 agencies, alternative payment programs, local child care planning  
9 councils, and child care advocacy groups.

10 (F) Regional Market Rate Survey researchers, including  
11 existing and past researchers.

12 (G) Representatives of county human services agencies.

13 (3) To the extent that the recommendations include the use of  
14 new, unrestricted state or federal funds, the recommendations  
15 shall describe the manner in which to balance the goals of  
16 incrementally increasing access to subsidized care for eligible  
17 families and the manner in which to strengthen the quality of care  
18 through an improved rate system.

19 SEC. 3. Section 8203.2 is added to the Education Code, to  
20 read:

21 8203.2. (a) The Child Development Division of the  
22 department, under the direction of the Superintendent, shall  
23 convene a task force consisting of representatives from each of  
24 the following:

25 (1) The California Children and Families Commission.

26 (2) The office of the Chancellor of the California Community  
27 Colleges.

28 (3) The office of the President of the University of California.

29 (4) The office of the Chancellor of the California State  
30 University.

31 (5) The Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

32 (6) The Child Development Division of the State Department  
33 of Education.

34 (7) The California Child Care Resource and Referral Network.

35 (8) The State Department of Social Services.

36 (9) Parents of children in subsidized and unsubsidized child  
37 care center and family child care settings.

38 (10) Community-based programs that provide child care and  
39 development training.

1 (11) Private colleges providing child care and development  
2 training.

3 (12) Employee organizations that represent child care workers.

4 (13) Providers of family child care services, including licensed  
5 and license-exempt providers and providers from nonsectarian  
6 and faith-based child care programs, and center-based teachers.

7 (14) Early child care and education experts, including experts  
8 on children with special needs.

9 (15) Child care center administrators, including part-day  
10 programs, Head Start, and the state preschool program.

11 (16) Local child care planning councils.

12 (17) Local First 5 commissions.

13 (18) Statewide child development professional associations.

14 (b) Task force participants shall serve without pay or  
15 compensation.

16 (c) The task force shall operate in a manner that encourages  
17 input and participation from the public.

18 (d) The task force shall conduct at least one public hearing  
19 prior to submitting the plan required pursuant to subdivision (e).

20 (e) On or before January 1, 2008, the task force shall develop  
21 and submit to the Legislature and to the Superintendent a Child  
22 Care and Development Workforce Development Plan that  
23 includes recommendations on all of the following issues:

24 (1) Clear expectations for staff competencies and requirements  
25 for each level of regulation for subsidized and unsubsidized child  
26 care and development center- and home-based services.

27 (2) Career ladders with links to teacher certification,  
28 credentialing, and alternative professional development  
29 programs.

30 (3) A method for assessing current training programs offered  
31 by public and private entities to ensure access to professional  
32 development opportunities for direct care personnel in all settings  
33 and from a variety of ethnic and linguistic backgrounds, so that  
34 enrollees can meet the requirements of the career ladders.

35 (4) Strategies for recruiting and retaining instructional staff  
36 who reflect the ethnic, racial, linguistic, and cultural diversity of  
37 California families.

38 (5) A means for providing child care and development staff  
39 with information regarding available training supports, including,

1 but not limited to, English-as-a-second-language training  
2 opportunities and scholarship programs.

3 (6) Determination of how to develop a prudent and efficient  
4 registry of child care and development workers, to be the  
5 repository of information about staff stability and professional  
6 development, and to be used in the determination of qualification  
7 for enhanced reimbursement.

8 (7) Goals for raising qualifications of child care and  
9 development providers, and a method to report to policymakers  
10 the status of meeting those goals.

11 (8) A procedure for assessing the impact of the plan, and  
12 updating the plan, every five years.

13 (9) Strategies for expanding access and funding for training  
14 and staff development for providers of family child care services.

15 (f) (1) On or before January 1, 2012, the State Department of  
16 Education, under the direction of the Superintendent, shall  
17 implement the Child Care and Development Workforce  
18 Development Plan.

19 (2) During implementation of the plan pursuant to paragraph  
20 (1), the department shall submit an annual progress report to the  
21 Legislature.

22 (3) The department shall submit a progress report to the  
23 Legislature every five years after implementation of the plan  
24 pursuant to paragraph (1) is completed.

25 (4) The Superintendent shall develop a procedure, based on  
26 the recommendations of the task force, for assessing the impact  
27 of the plan, and update the plan every five years.

28 (5) The Superintendent shall develop, based on the  
29 recommendations of the task force, a registry of child care and  
30 development workers, to be the repository of information about  
31 staff stability and professional development, and to be used in the  
32 determination of qualifications for enhanced reimbursement if so  
33 required.

34 (g) To the extent resources are required to implement the plan,  
35 funds shall be appropriated in the annual Budget Act for this  
36 purpose from the General Fund or from other state or federal  
37 revenues appropriated for workforce development.

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